

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LIMA 05729 131632Z

44

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 SPM-01 AID-20 HEW-08 PC-10 CU-05

IGA-02 SS-20 NSC-07 SP-03 L-03 H-03 PA-04 PRS-01

USIA-15 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DRC-01 SSO-00

/149 W

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P R 122309Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 983

INFO AMEMBSSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TBIO, SWEL, PE

SUBJ: AMIGOS DE LAS AMERICAS - PRESS CRITICISM OF
US YOUTH GROUP

REF: LIMA 5556, STATE 150387

1. DAVID DERIEMER, LEADER OF "AMIGOS DE LAS AMERICAS" IN PERU, VISITED EMBASSY JULY 12, TO INFORM US THAT THE PERUVIAN MINISTRY OF HEALTH HAD CANCELED THE GROUP'S ANTI-MEASLES ANNOCULATION CAMPAIGN IN AYACUCHO, GIVING AS ITS REASON A CONCERN, OWING TO ADVERSE PUBLICITY, FOR THE PERSONAL SAFETY OF THE GROUP.

2. AS A RESULT OF CANCELLATION, DERIMER CAME TO LIMA WITH LETTERS FROM THE PREFECT OF AYACUCHO, SINAMOS, AND TWO AYACUCHO DOCTORS ATTESTING TO THE FACT THAT THE GROUP WAS IN NO PHYSICAL DANGER. HE HOPES THAT THESE LETTERS, IN ADDITION TO VERIFICATIONS THAT THE VACCINE IS SAFE AND UNRELATED TO STERILIZATION, WILL ENCOURAGE THE
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PAGE 02 LIMA 05729 131632Z

MINISTRY TO REVERSE ITS DECISION AND PERMIT THE "AMIGOS"

TO RESUME THEIR WORK.

3. MEANWHILE, THE FIRST GROUP OF THIRTY VOLUNTEER WORKERS WILL RETURN TO LIMA JULY 12 AND LEAVE PERU JULY 15 AS ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED. THE SECOND GROUP IS NOW WAITING IN BOGOTA PENDING WORD OF A REVERSAL OF THE MINISTRY'S DECISION. THE "AMIGOS" LEFT TWO OF THEIR GROUP LEADERS IN AYACUCHO. DERIMEMER'S SUPERVISOR, PHIL JOHNSON, ARRIVED IN LIMA JULY 11 FROM PARAGVUAY, AND TWO OTHER GROUP LEADERS ARE EXPECTED TO ARRIVE IN LIMA FROM COLOMBIA JULY 12 TO ASSIST IN DISCUSSIONS WITH THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH.

4. ZIERE HAS BEEN NO ADDITIONAL PRESS MENTION OF THE "AMIGOS" SINCE THE ORIGINAL ARTICLE REPORTED IN LIMA 5556. WE HAVE GIVEN COPIES OF THE IPS ARTICLE CARRIED IN THE JULY 10 WIRELESS FILE TO THE PRESS HERE.
DEAN

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Message Attributes

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